It was a metaphor so literal, if it was a movie you'd throw popcorn at the screen. The walking embodiment of old Hollywood and white privilege, frozen in bewilderment, allows a cadre of white males to think they've won for a light-hearted confection about cute white dreamers in L.A. And then we all watch as they physically transfer the statuette to a female producer and a black director for their intimate movie about a black gay man. "I'm going to be really proud to hand this to my friends from Moonlight," Horowitz said gracefully. ***Speaking for humankind? We can only dream.*** SCHNELLER ON THE OSCAR FINALE

Ottawa metro

Your essential daily news | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2017 | High 6°C/Low 2°C Mostly cloudy

Tourism's next wave

FLY ME TO THE MOON

metroNEWS

CMHC
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THE QUOTA CONUNDRUM
The New Democrats want the feds to enforce more diversity in boardrooms, but experts fear it could backfire badly
metroNEWS

oRide, the Uber for Ottawans

TRANSPORTATION

Seeks to carve out niche while saving cabbies

Adam Kveton
For Metro | Ottawa

A city employee has created his own ride-sharing app and hopes to get both casual drivers and existing taxi companies to buy in.

Neville Hewage applied for a Private Transportation Company licence in December for oRide. If he secures one, his company will stand alongside Uber as the only holders in Ottawa.

While oRide will offer rides and secure payment through an app like Uber, there are important differences that Hewage said will allow the company to carve out its own niche in the market.

Perhaps the biggest is oRide will offer trips through taxi companies as well as its own drivers. Currently, oRide is working with a licensed service called City Cab to provide booking and payment.

Even after oRide receives its licence, Hewage said, the app will offer rides through City Cab, and other taxi companies interested in partnering with them. Rides with a taxi company would be subject to their rates.

Hewage said he hopes his app can bring taxi drivers into the 21st century.

"Otherwise they will be wiped out," he said. "This is survival of the fittest."

Hewage started looking into the creation of a new service when Uber began operating in Ottawa around October 2014.

"I have a lot of friends … they work for the taxis," he said. "They took the wrong approach. Rather than fighting with Uber, they should have developed their business model. But they didn't."

He said oRide won't compete directly with Uber because it won't have surge pricing as Uber does, drivers will be able to keep a larger percentage of the fare and the minimum cost of an oRide will be $8, which will discourage the short trips that Hewage said make up a significant percentage of Uber's rides.

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Trump brand in hot water over inaccurate tweet about new Vancouver tower. **Canada**

Oscar Tango Apparel's Kristian Toscano (centre) strikes a pose with his entrepreneurial schoolmates (left to right) Eric Batali, Kallel Coltess, Melanie Ni-Lan, Jay Mills, Hassan Hamed and Justin Park outside the Minto Recreation Complex in Barrhaven southwest Ottawa on Monday. The seven students, all born in the year 2000, attend Grade 11 at St. Joseph Catholic High School in Barrhaven. MIKE CARROCCETTO / FOR METRO

Wearing a positive message

ENTREPRENEURS

Barrhaven teens promote diversity with clothing line

Alana Thoman
For Metro | Ottawa

Seven Ottawa teens from St. Joseph High School combined their love for fashion and business to create Oscar Tango — a clothing line that promotes diversity.

"On the back there are nine different languages and they all represent different places and different cultures in the world and show that they should all be accepted no matter where you are in the world," said Jay Mills, one of the designers.

"We also have a maple leaf on the bottom showing how diverse Canada is and how all are accepted in Canada."

Kallel Coltess, another designer, explained that Oscar Tango can be OT for short, which represents Ottawa and also stands for Out of Town, signifying the idea that people come from different places.

The seven teens are all from different backgrounds: Mills is Filipino and Coltess is Polish and Caribbean.

Mills said by showing that they can all come together and act like there is no boundaries or barriers, their designs will help show that all languages and cultures are accepted and everyone should be accepted no matter who they are.

Mills said they plan to reach out to stores such as NRML, WLKN, Stomping Ground and Top of the World to see what they can work out with them.

"We are planning to meet with some of them when we go to downtown Rideau, which is kind of the fashion place of Ottawa," said Mills.

> **On the back there are nine different languages and they all represent different places and different cultures in the world.**
> Jay Mills

Coltess said once they start to make profit they will be donating to charities. "One of my cousins recently passed away and so an idea was we were going to create the design or product specifically for him, and all the proceeds would go to a charity like CHEO for example," he said.

Mills said they have had a significant amount of inquiries so far and are ordering more supplies, having run out of stock. They are selling through social media and word of mouth at the moment, but plan to have their website up and running in the next few days.

VIRAL DISEASE

Mumps issue is on city's radar

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

If you have fond memories of Full House, your first Backstreet Boys concert, or pogs , it might be time for a booster shot to protect against mumps. While Ottawa has not yet had a mumps case, outbreaks have sprung up in several cities across the country and public health officials are warning people to be wary.

"There has been one lab-confirmed case in a neighbouring public health unit and that individual has had contact with people who live in the Ottawa area," said Dr. Daniel Myran, a resident with Ottawa Public Health.

Myran said they're monitoring people who might have come in contact with the patient, but they're not too worried just yet. "This is a fairly bread-and-butter operation," he said. "This would be routine contact tracing,"

What people should be doing, Myran said, is updating their vaccinations. He said many people born between 1970 and 1992 didn't receive both shots, which puts them at a greater risk. "The important thing is that people need to check their vaccine records," he said. "Not everyone is aware that you need two doses of mumps to be immunized."

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OTTAWA SENATORS

FANS, SAY HELLO TO YOUR NEW FRIEND

The Sens are gearing up for a post-season push, acquiring veteran forward Alexandre Burrows from the Vancouver Canucks in exchange for prospect Jonathan Dahlen on Monday. The deal was announced 46 hours before Wednesday's NHL trade deadline and gives the Senators a skilled pest with plenty of playoff experience. Burrows, 36 in April, played 822 regular-season games with the Canucks, posting 193 goals, 191 assists and 1,066 penalty minutes. For more, see **metroSPORTS**

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Board diversity is fed duty: NDP

GENDER EQUITY

But think-tank says helping women could backfire

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

As the NDP calls for tougher rules to create more diversity on Canadian boards, a private think-tank warns that forcing gender parity could do more harm than good.

Windsor NDP MP Brian Masse suggested the government go further on its gender diversity bill, C-25, calling for a minimum number of women on the boards of Canadian corporations.

The current version of C-25, introduced by the Liberal government, requires corporations work toward gender diversity and disclose the current make-up of their boards.

Data from 2016 shows about 21.6 per cent of board seats in Canada are filled by women.

"The world is moving quite quickly on this and Canada is a laggard to begin with," said Masse.

Masse said he believes that, as a starting point, corporations should be required to have at least 30 per cent of their board director seats occupied by women.

"Canada would only join the ranks of more progressive countries on this."

But Andrea Mrozek, program director with the think tank Cardus, suggested mandatory quotas could actually make things more difficult for women on boards.

"It creates a negative work environment whereby people question how a very qualified woman got into management in the first place," she said.

Mrozek referenced the work of Nima Sanandaji, an author who looked at gender diversity programs in several Nordic countries, and found women would be promoted before they were prepared to take on the role.

"People are grasping to fulfil a legal requirement where they may not have been ready for it," said Mrozek.

She said the other fundamental problem with a quota is that it means the government is telling businesses how to operate.

"It's also a bad signal more broadly to the business community that the government is now getting involved in your business."

Masse rejects that idea and said there is no reason Canada can't be as progressive on this front as other countries.

"The era for excuses is over. There is no reason in the modern era, given what the world is doing, that we can't give a gentle push in this manner."

OPIOID CRISIS

Responders may get naloxone kits

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

The city's emergency services are considering equipping firefighters with naloxone to combat fentanyl-related overdose deaths.

In a memo to councillors, emergency services general manager Anthony Di Monte said the plan is still being evaluated, with implications regarding training, legal and distribution.

Ottawa Paramedic Service has increased its supply of naloxone in ambulances and equipment bags. The service has also been tracking opioid-related calls.

In his update to the police board on Monday afternoon, Chief Charles Bordeleau emphasized that co-operation between law enforcement, first responders and health authority was crucial.

"If we learned anything from British Columbia's experience with this fentanyl crisis it is this: the health sector, along with government and police, must be proactive," he said.

Bordeleau has asked the province to provide funding for naloxone to all front-line officers.

On the weekend a 20-year-old man died from an overdose downtown. Police have also confirmed that Chloe Kotval, 14,died from fake prescription pills laced with fentanyl.

Earlier this month police executed six warrants, resulting in the largest seizure of fentanyl in Ottawa's history and the arrests of 12 people.

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ECOLOGY

Advocates display 100 dead birds

Evidence of just how many birds have died last year in building collisions was on display Monday at City Hall.

Advocacy group Safe Wings Ottawa brought their 2016 collection of birds killed after collisions out of the freezer to educate the public and lobby politicians to change building codes, according to Anouk Hoedeman, co-founder of the group.

The colourful display, including specimens from 109 bird species, was laid out for passersby to examine.

It's a small example of the estimated 250,000 to 500,000 total collisions in the city, according to Safe Wings.

Safe Wings says they had 2619 collisions recorded in 2016, and 1793 specimens collected and frozen by volunteers.

The visual strategy seems to be working. Hoedeman said Safe Wings saw their recorded bird deaths double in 2016 because of awareness.

Safe Wings volunteer John Wright explains the killed bird display to a young girl inside City Hall. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO OTTAWA

Hoedeman said while it may be too late to change the course of the National Arts Centre's glass lantern, the city promising to implement bird-friendly design guidelines is "a big step."

"Things like this don't change overnight. We're realistic about how fast we can make the entire city bird-friendly. It's going to be a while but there is incremental change," she said.

While small songbirds like chickadees made up most of the feathery victims, Safe Wings has also collected birds from seven at risk species and larger species like raptors and crows.

HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

Ottawa resident Daniel Guolla, right, has been on the world championship Crashed Ice tour for the past four years, and gave Metro some tips on what it takes to compete. CONTRIBUTED

It's all downhill come the weekend

SPORTS

Homegrown Crashed Ice athlete looks ahead to event

Adam Kveton
For Metro | Ottawa

It's a high-speed, big-air, hard-hitting race on skates, but the skills you need to win at Red Bull Crashed Ice may not be the ones you're thinking of.

Daniel Guolla, the only Ottawa athlete competing in the Ice Cross Downhill World Series finale at the Ottawa Locks this Friday and Saturday, gave Metro Ottawa some tips on what it takes to compete.

For starters, the race is not necessarily to swiftest hockey player. Though all the Crashed Ice competitors are strong skaters, Guolla said, proficiency at other sports like mountain biking, dirt biking and even surfing helps one's cause on the ice.

"Being able to control your body in the air and being OK with going 50 kilometres an hour (and faster) – that's what's separating what we do from hockey players," he said.

"(All the athletes) are either as good or usually better at some other sport. For myself it's downhill skiing."

Guolla first earned a spot on the circuit back in 2009. At the time, athletes had to enter a lottery just for the chance to race on a flat-track obstacle course, with the top 10 fastest athletes earning the opportunity race on a proper downhill track.

At just 18 years old, Guolla made it into the top 10.

Asked what his first downhill experience was like, he said, "I was awful … but I loved it."

There is little training availability on actual downhill tracks because they are so expensive to build, said Guolla. Instead, many athletes train by donning a pair of roller blades and hitting their local skate park.

"That's probably the best and the closest actual training to what we do," he said.

It no longer takes a lottery to get into Crashed Ice. Instead, hopefuls can compete in smaller Riders Cup competitions to try and earn a spot.

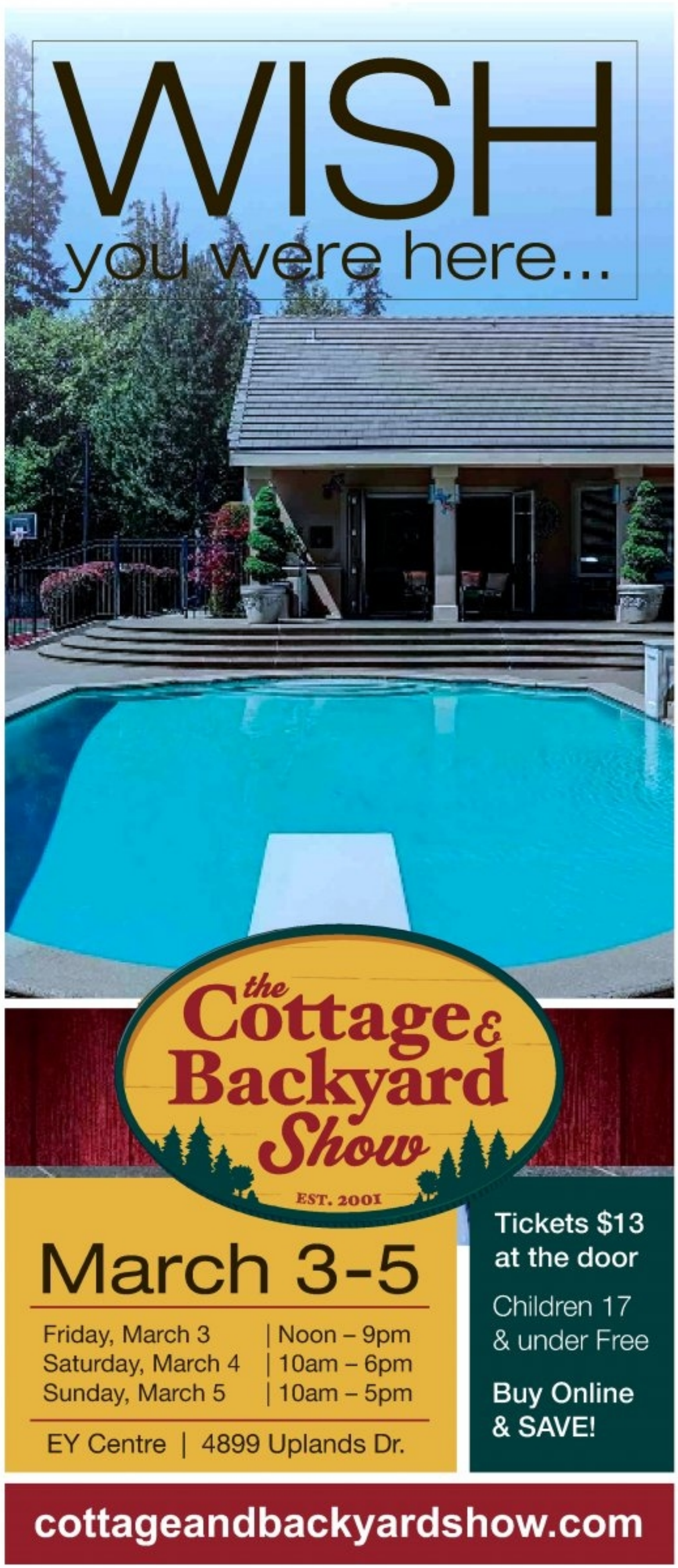
New this year is the Junior World Championship for competitors aged 16-21. It's another great opportunity for aspiring Ice Cross Downhill competitors to break into the sport, said Guolla.

This year's Ottawa course looks to be tricky and exciting, he said, with a clumping of obstacles near the end. He expects these to keep things interesting.

"(Usually) you get three-quarters or two-thirds of the way through the course and the guy in first is almost always going to win," said Guolla. But he expects that won't be the case in Ottawa.

"The races here really won't be over till everyone is across the finish line."

Being able to control your body in the air and being OK with going 50 kilometres an hour (and faster) — that's what's separating what we do from hockey players. Daniel Guolla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Manulife lands in hot water

FINANCE

Bank was fined $1.2M by money-laundering watchdog

It took 10 months of intense media scrutiny and public outrage before Canadians learned Manulife Bank was the mysterious financial institution behind a $1.2 million fine for money-laundering violations.

The same day Manulife's identity was kept secret, a handful of much smaller companies — facing much smaller fines — were publicly named and shamed by FINTRAC, the country's money-laundering and terrorist funding watchdog. That confusing double standard has now triggered a review of FINTRAC's disclosure policy amid a Torstar/National Observer investigation.

"In exercising my discretion to withhold the name of the bank, I understand that it may not have met public expectations in relation to openness and transparency," wrote Gérald Cossette, FINTRAC director, in a statement.

The carefully-worded statement still makes no reference to the bank at the centre of the controversy — an expression of the agency's uneven transparency model since its birth in 2008.

Over the past eight years, FINTRAC has named 40 companies for violating the law while keeping secret another 55.

As part of the Torstar/National Observer investigation over the past two months, reporters attempted to identify the bank by surveying all 32 Schedule I banks in Canada, asking them to clearly state whether they were the bank involved.

While almost all the banks responded unequivocally, Manulife wrote last Wednesday: "We do not comment on any matters regarding our regulators, whether they are rumour, speculation or fact."

On Monday, Manulife issued a public statement confirming it was the mystery bank in question.

Over the last three months, Torstar and the National Observer have published exclusive details about the offences behind the fine. Among those findings:

- Manulife failed to report one suspicious transaction to Fintrac — labelled a "very serious" violation — that experts say undermines Canada's system to detect financial crimes and trace dirty money.
- The bank also failed to report 1,174 outgoing international electronic transfers of $10,000 or more, 45 deposits of $10,000 or more in cash and four incoming international electronic transfers of $10,000 or more.
- Fintrac documents obtained by Torstar and the National Observer also show Manulife's fine, which was reduced twice from an initial $1.8 million, was for five different types of violations of anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing law, involving a failure to report transfers totalling at least $12.2 million.
- Manulife was also fined for failing to "develop and apply compliance policies and procedures."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A man wearing an oversized Donald Trump head protests outside the still-under-construction Trump International Hotel and Tower on Wednesday Oct. 5, 2016. DARRYL DICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

VANCOUVER

Trump Organization tweets wrong facts

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

President Donald Trump's sons may have taken over the reins of his international company following his U.S. election win amidst ongoing concerns about potential conflicts of interest.

But that didn't stop Trump Organization, which the President still owns but doesn't manage, from apparently inheriting its namesake's appreciation for what have become known as "alternative facts."

On Monday, a day before Trump International Hotel and Tower official opens in Vancouver with the President's sons Donald Jr. and Eric Trump attending, the company issued an outright falsehood on Twitter.

"Tomorrow marks the official grand opening of @TrumpVancouver," the 6:25 a.m. tweet stated. "The 69-story tower will be the first property to open in the city in over 6 yrs."

> **The 69-story tower will be the first property to open in the city in over 6 yrs.**
> Trump Organization

The inaccuracy of that claim will be obvious to any Vancouverite who has watched construction sites and cranes spring up in almost every corner of the city in recent years, many projects quickly reaching completion and opening to residents amidst a real estate boom.

The phrase "alternative facts" was coined by Trump spokeswoman Kellyanne Conway in a television interview, when confronted on lies told by her and the White House about the size of the President's inauguration crowd.

The Georgia Street tower is set to open Tuesday, and already two separate protests have been announced to oppose the U.S. President and hotelier.

Trump tower in Vancouver, which was developed by Holborn Group, has drawn criticism from Vancouver politicians, one of whom called it a "beacon of intolerance" recently because of its namesake's moves to ban visitors from seven Muslim-majority countries from entering the U.S., remarks labeling Mexicans "rapists," opposition to transgender-inclusive bathrooms, accusations of sexual assault and sexual harassment, official investigations into links between the Trump campaign and Russian government spies, and degrading comments to women, among other complaints.

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O'Leary bails on Tory leadership debate

Celebrity businessman Kevin O'Leary has ripped another page out of U.S. President Donald Trump's campaign play book, backing out of a planned Conservative party leadership debate over frustrations with the format.

His move to boycott Tuesday's debate in Edmonton prompted immediate cries of foul from his competitors, some of whom accused him of making up the notion that all but one of the 14 leadership contenders agreed that the format needed to be changed.

O'Leary contended that having all 14 candidates appear on stage together to answer the same questions is unproductive.

He claimed his team had worked to build consensus for a switch to the format used at a conservative movement conference in Ottawa last Friday and that all candidates but one agreed. In Friday's debate, organized by the arms-length Manning Centre, the candidates were divided into small groups, each of which tackled a specific policy issue. THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. POLITICS

Tensions with North Korea

U.S. officials huddled Monday with key Asian powers to discuss tensions with North Korea, which have been stoked by a recent missile test and an airport killing officials believe was ordered by Pyongyang.

North Korea's rapid progress toward acquiring a nuclear-tipped missile that could strike the U.S. mainland poses one of the sternest national security challenges for President Donald Trump, whose administration is currently conducting a policy review on how to deal with the communist government.

On Monday, U.S. Special Representative for North Korea Policy Joseph Yun huddled at the State Department with his Japanese and South Korean counterparts, Kenji Kanasugi and Kim Hong-kyun. The meeting was part of continued U.S. efforts to get its main allies in Asia to co-operate more closely on security.

North Korea will also be on the agenda when Chinese State Councillor Yang Jiechi meets with high-ranking U.S. officials during a Washington visit on Monday and Tuesday. He is the first senior Chinese official to visit the U.S. since Trump took office. Their discussions come amid uncertainty about how the world's two largest economies will manage their trade relationship and security challenges in East Asia.

Tensions could be set to rise in the region shortly.

The U.S. should begin annual military exercises with South Korea in March, which could cause warlike rhetoric from North Korea.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syrian men and Civil Defence volunteers, also known as the White Helmets, extinguish a fire following reported government airstrikes on the rebel-held town of Douma, on the eastern outskirts of the capital Damascus, on Sunday. Moscow asked Damascus to stop launching strikes during the Geneva talks. GETTY IMAGES

Strikes and talks persist

SYRIA

Geneva peace moves continue amid recent violence

Airstrikes on Syria's rebel-held Idlib province killed at least 11 people on Monday, opposition activists said, in the latest spasm of violence to mar UN-brokered talks in Geneva between the government and the opposition.

Separately, there were unconfirmed reports that a top al-Qaeda official was killed in an airstrike, also in Idlib.

Also on Monday, pro-government forces drove Daesh militants out of a line of villages in the congested Turkish frontier region, blocking the path of rival Turkish-backed opposition forces from reaching the de facto Daesh capital, Raqqa, opposition activists said.

The SITE Intelligence Group, which monitors extremist groups, said Abdullah Muhammad Rajab Abdulrahman, the deputy to al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri, may have been killed in a U.S. airstrike on an unmarked sedan on Sunday evening.

Images of the vehicle purported to have been carrying Abdulrahman, known more widely by his nom de guerre Abu al-Khayr al-Masri, showed damage to the passenger compartment of the beige Kia sedan but no damage to the engine block. The roof was blown open on the right side of the vehicle.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported that a top al-Qaida official was killed in a drone strike, but could not confirm it was al-Masri.

Al-Masri was a close associate of Osama bin Laden and was once the chairman of al-Qaida's management council, according to a Washington Post report.

A senior official in a rival jihadi faction in northern Syria urged caution over the reports, saying other top al-Qaida officials in Syria had staged their own deaths only to defect from the group.

Government forces and allied Hezbollah fighters meanwhile cut an arc through Daesh-held territory to reach independent, Kurdish-led forces near the Euphrates River, effectively preventing Turkish-backed Syrian opposition forces from heading south toward Raqqa.

"The Syrian regime claims it is fighting terrorism but it is not. It cut the path for the Free Syrian Army factions to reach Raqqa," said Col. Abu Firas, a spokesman for the Free Syrian Army, a loose alliance of mainstream rebels.

He spoke after an opposition delegation met Monday with UN mediator Staffan de Mistura to continue talks aimed at resolving Syria's six-year-old war. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

150 WAYS of looking at Canada

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TIM KENNEDY

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POLITICS

Trump refocusing presidency

President Donald Trump's first address to Congress gives him a welcome opportunity to refocus his young administration on the core economic issues that helped him get elected — and, his allies hope, to move beyond the distractions and self-inflicted wounds that have roiled his White House.

Trump's advisers say he will use his prime-time speech Tuesday to declare early progress on his campaign promises, including kick-starting construction of his proposed southern border wall, and to map a path ahead on thorny legislative priorities, including health care and infrastructure spending.

"We spend billions in the Middle East, but we have potholes all over the country," Trump said Monday as he previewed the address during a meeting with the nation's governors. "We're going to start spending on infrastructure big."

Republicans, impatient to begin making headway on an ambitious legislative agenda, hope Trump arrives on Capitol Hill armed with specifics on replacing the "Obamacare" health law and overhauling the nation's tax system, two issues he's so far talked about in mostly general terms.

More broadly, some Republicans are anxious for the president to set aside his feuds with the media, the intelligence community and the courts, which have overshadowed the party's policy priorities.

The pressure from Republican lawmakers makes this a critical moment for a new president who ran for office on a pledge to swiftly shake up Washington and follow through on the failed promises of career politicians.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Nobody from Hollywood' flying around the moon

SPACE

One giant leap for tourism in 2018, SpaceX promises

SpaceX said Monday it will fly two people to the moon next year, a feat not attempted since NASA's Apollo heyday close to half a century ago.

Tech billionaire Elon Musk — the company's founder and chief executive officer — announced the surprising news barely a week after launching his first rocket from NASA's legendary moon pad.

Two people who know one another approached the company about sending them on a weeklong flight just beyond the moon, according to Musk. He won't identify the pair or the price tag. They've already paid a "significant" deposit and are "very serious" about it, he noted.

"Fly me to the moon ... Ok," Musk said in a light-hearted tweet following the news conference.

Musk said SpaceX is on track to launch astronauts to the International Space Station for NASA in mid-2018. This moon mission would follow about six months later, by the end of the year under the current schedule, using a Dragon crew capsule and a Falcon heavy rocket launched from NASA's former moon pad in Florida.

Elon Musk THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If all goes as planned, it could happen close to the 50th anniversary of NASA's first manned flight to the moon, on Apollo 8.

The SpaceX moonshot is designed to be autonomous — unless something goes wrong, Musk said.

"I think they are entering this with their eyes open, knowing that there is some risk here," Musk told reporters in the telephone conference, a day after teasing via Twitter that an announcement of some sort was forthcoming.

Musk said he does not have permission to release the passengers' names, and he was hesitant to even say if they were men, women or even pilots. He would only admit, "It's nobody from Hollywood."

The paying passengers would make a long loop around the moon, skimming the lunar surface and then going well beyond, perhaps 300,000 or 400,000 miles distance altogether. It's about 240,000 miles to the moon alone, one way.

The mission would not involve a lunar landing.

"This should be a really exciting mission that hopefully gets the world really excited about sending people into deep space again," Musk said.

NASA will have first dibs on a similar mission if it so chooses, he said. The space agency learned of his plan at the same time as reporters.

In a statement, NASA commended SpaceX "for reaching higher."

In all, 24 astronauts flew to the moon and 12 walked its surface from 1969 to 1972.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SpaceX's Dragon capsule sits aboard a ship on Feb. 10, 2015 in the Pacific Ocean west of Mexico's Baja Peninsula after returning from the International Space Station, carrying about 3,700 lbs of cargo for NASA. SPACEX/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CRIME

Germany sees 'alarmingly high' number of anti-migrant crimes

Migrants and their homes in Germany faced more than 3,500 attacks in 2016, a number that is "alarmingly high and cause for concern," a German official said Monday, while adding that the crimes are being aggressively prosecuted and the numbers of such attacks are now falling.

Most of the attacks were crimes like vandalism to asylum-seeker homes — including far-right graffiti, threats and slander — but the report also included more serious attacks like arson, bodily harm and attempted murder. It was compiled by the Interior Ministry with information from Germany's 16 states in response to a question in Parliament by the Left party.

"There was a very wide spectrum of crimes ... every one is to be condemned," said Interior Ministry spokesman Johannes Dimroth.

The attacks led to 560 people being injured, including 43 children. Overall, 2,343 suspects were identified and investigated, according to the new report.

Comparison figures for previous years haven't been compiled but Dimroth said after 2016 the "trend is downward ... which gives us a little bit of hope."

Germany took in 890,000 asylum-seekers in 2015, and the influx caused a backlash and a rise in anti-immigrant sentiment, which was most pronounced in eastern parts of the country.

The government has invested more resources into fighting xenophobic crimes, but the new figures show more needs to be done, said Gauri van Gulik, deputy Europe director of Amnesty International.

"We need to see better risk assessments, more protection at certain locations, thorough investigations and prosecutions of these appalling racist attacks to stop them in the future," van Gulik said.

Dimroth said, in addition to government policies and police enforcement, it's up to society in general to fight racism, saying it's impossible to just "ban" extremism.

The number of asylum-seekers in Germany tapered off to 280,000 in 2016. With the decrease, and more intensive government efforts to rapidly send home those whose applications are rejected, anti-immigrant sentiment has tapered off somewhat.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Women from Afghanistan, who preferred not to show their faces to the camera, attend a class offering literacy and basic computer knowledge in Berlin, Germany. GETTY IMAGES

Ikea testing virtual reality

TECHNOLOGY

Simulator puts furniture into consumers' own homes

Ikea Canada is jumping into the virtual reality ring with the launch on Tuesday of a simulator at its Etobicoke location in Toronto that will allow customers to see themselves moving inside a version of their own, newly renovated Ikea kitchen.

"We know that virtual reality isn't widely available yet, but we know it's coming fast," said Rob Kelly, head of sales, Ikea Canada.

The technology is used in video games but is heading into new applications, including allowing people to see how a piece of furniture would look in their own home using their mobile phone.

The Etobicoke store pilot is the only one in Canada, although the concept is being tested in other markets, including a store in Belgium, one in Sweden and a booth at an order-and-pick-up location, also in Sweden.

Ceasar Varela, kitchen and dining manager at an Ikea store in Toronto, poses with the Virtual Reality Pancake Kitchen display. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The testing will run until May 21, at which time Ikea Canada will assess the findings and the potential for the technology.

"This is an exploration journey for us," said Kelly. "It's exciting, it's fun to do, but at the end of the day, what we're really interested in hearing about from customers is, does it really help?"

Lowe's was the first retailer to test a holoroom in Canada, in late 2014, according to Kyle Nel, executive director, Lowe's Innovation Labs.

"We coined the phrase holoroom," said Nel.

Since then, the technology has shrunk and customers with a Google Tango smartphone, equipped with 3D depth sensors, can take advantage of virtual and augmented reality with their phones, instead of using goggles and hand-held controllers.

"The ambition was never to have these giant, cumbersome boxes as part of the store, the goal was to learn how people use virtual reality and augmented reality in a real way inside of a working home improvement store," said Nel.

The virtual reality kitchen at Ikea offers two different experiences: One invites customers to try cooking pancakes in virtual reality to gain an understanding of work flow in a kitchen and how it can be optimized.

The second is for customers who have already been through the kitchen-planning process at Ikea and want to bring the design to life, allowing them to move in virtual reality through their plans, for example, opening cupboards, to see how everything works together.

"Will that give the consumer even more confidence that they are making the right decision? Right now it's about learning for us and it's seeing how the technology can support the business going forward," said Kelly. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

LOYALTY CARDS

Rewards losing allure

The value of customer loyalty programs is under increased scrutiny by companies and users in the wake of Air Miles' recent reversal of an expiration policy.

The operator of the shopper reward program, LoyaltyOne, angered many members last year with its proposal to void unused Air Miles after five years, only to abandon that plan weeks before it was to take effect.

Last month, supermarket chain Metro said it was considering dropping Air Miles and launching its own loyalty program in its Ontario grocery stores following the backlash.

The Air Miles misstep doesn't help foster consumer trust and is a "cautionary tale" for other providers, said Sean Claessen, executive vice-president of strategy for marketing agency Bond Brand Loyalty.

It takes trouble with just one loyalty card to test the public's patience with rewards programs, added John Boynton, chief marketing officer of Aeroplan operator Aimia.

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PENNY COLLENETTE ON SANCTUARY CITIES

We must 'mind the gap' between the vision and the reality of sanctuaries

Giving shelter Clear laws and co-ordinated leadership needed, writes Penny Collenette. AP

The world has a massive problem on its hands. The numbers of displaced people fleeing persecution, conflict and genocide are staggering. The UN Refugee Agency estimates "an unprecedented 65.3 million people around the world have been forced from home. Among them are nearly 21.3 million refugees. There are also 10 million stateless people who have been denied a nationality and access to basic rights."

Where can these asylum seekers find safety in an increasingly unsafe world?

Initially, we assumed that sheltered refuge would be found in North America. To that end, Canada signed the Safe Third Country Agreement in 2002 with the U.S., requiring refugee claimants (with some exceptions) request protection in the first country in which they arrive, not both.

What could go wrong? Both countries were deemed to "respect human rights and offer a high degree of protection for asylum seekers."

But increasingly, the assumption the U.S. is a safe harbour is at risk. Donald Trump has exacerbated the global situation with rumours of accelerated deportations along with threats to cut federal funding to approximately 400 American cities and counties that provide sanctuary to illegal immigrants, potentially amounting to $2.27 billion in cuts for the nation's 10 largest cities.

Given this intimidating culture, it is no wonder undocumented refugees in the United States are understandably nervous and are now looking north to our country for sanctuary. Canadian cities are beginning to respond with designations of "sanctuary cities" and with requests for more resources.

Whether the numbers crossing the undefended portions of our joint border are a trickle or a flood remain to be seen. Competing visions of the future are colliding in our consciousness, in part because of politics and in part because of real confusion. The government, which is dealing with an unprecedented situation, is taking time to assess the severity of the situation.

But are city services enough? The Mayor of Fredericton recently noted that because provinces have responsibility for education and health, it may be more appropriate for New Brunswick to be designated as a sanctuary province. Similarly, a project at the Ryerson Centre for Immigration and Settlement in Toronto is studying the idea of provincial sanctuary as it researches the availability of labour markets for illegal migrants while examining municipal programs that could be "scaled" up to the provincial level.

However, before we leap to a higher sanctuary level, we must "mind the gap" between the vision and the reality of sanctuaries. For example, police forces are in a Catch-22 position as they are expected to serve everyone without question as to their papers. However, if they are aware of any illegal immigration information, they are required by law to report it to Canada Border Services. Which direction takes precedence?

Secondly, affordable housing remains a pressing issue for many cities, not to mention the challenge of homelessness. Can we build new units? If so, how quickly and which level of government provides the funds?

Successful sanctuaries, whether at the municipal or provincial level will require clarity of laws, as well as co-ordinated leadership among officials at all levels. To avoid arguments, and possible confrontations, citizens, too, must receive good communication and education. None of this is easy. Patience, rather than heated rhetoric, will be a virtue.

Penny Collenette is an adjunct law professor at the University of Ottawa and was a director in Jean Chrétien's PMO.

Manning Centre council scorecard hits the mark

COLLINS' CAPITAL

Steve Collins

When the conservative Manning Centre came to town for its annual conference last week, it brought a gift: a study on Ottawa City Council, crunching publicly-available numbers to quantify how we're governed.

The report, covering November 2014 to June 2016, found councillor attendance rates were 97.7 per cent on average, and clocked the average meeting at one hour and 45 minutes.

Our council, the study found, does most of its business in the open, taking meetings private only one per cent of the time to discuss legal, labour and personnel matters. In comparison, the Manning Centre calculates city council in its hometown of Calgary goes in camera almost a quarter of the time.

Our generally smooth-running meetings led the Manningites to believe the real action happens elsewhere, with the report noting that easily-passed votes implies policy debates must happen "behind the scenes, in committee, or otherwise before the meeting."

In another observation that will surprise approximately no one, the report notes "Mayor Watson never dissented against the majority," suggesting the mayor supports council, council supports the mayor, or both.

Geography and seniority seem to play a role in the mild rebellions we do see. Three of the four councillors who voted most frequently against the majority — Couns. Jeff Leiper, Catherine McKenney and Tobi Nussbaum — are all first-term councillors representing downtown wards. The fourth, Coun. Rick Chiarelli is further out in College ward, and he's an old pro, having served on council since amalgamation in 2000, plus two terms on the old Nepean council.

There is, as one might expect from a conservative think tank, an ideological aspect to the project. The Manningites have long complained conservatives are under-represented in municipal politics and a lack of party labels makes it harder for electors to know how a particular councillor will vote.

The lack of team jerseys in city politics can seem less than transparent, but it's hardly a secret that Mayor Watson was once a provincial Liberal cabinet minister, that Coun. McKenney worked for NDP MPs Paul Dewar and Ed Broadbent, or that Coun. Allan Hubley has mulled running federally as a Conservative.

The lack of explicit party affiliation seems to cut down on the counterproductive partisan trash talk and whipped votes we see at other levels of government, and I've seen few advantages to recommend, in either process or outcomes, formal party systems like Vancouver's or Montreal's.

The Manning Centre's own efforts to organize a so-called Common Sense Calgary slate of council candidates stirred controversy in 2013 when a developer was caught on tape discussing the $1.1 million he and colleagues had given the Centre in hopes of electing city councillors who would "swing our way."

That struck me as a pretty lousy way to "maximize freedom, responsibility and accountability," one of the Manning Centre's objectives. A report like this one, packed with hard numbers for any interested citizen, is more like it.

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Social horror hit Get Out retains its 100% Rotten Tomatoes rating as it tops the box office

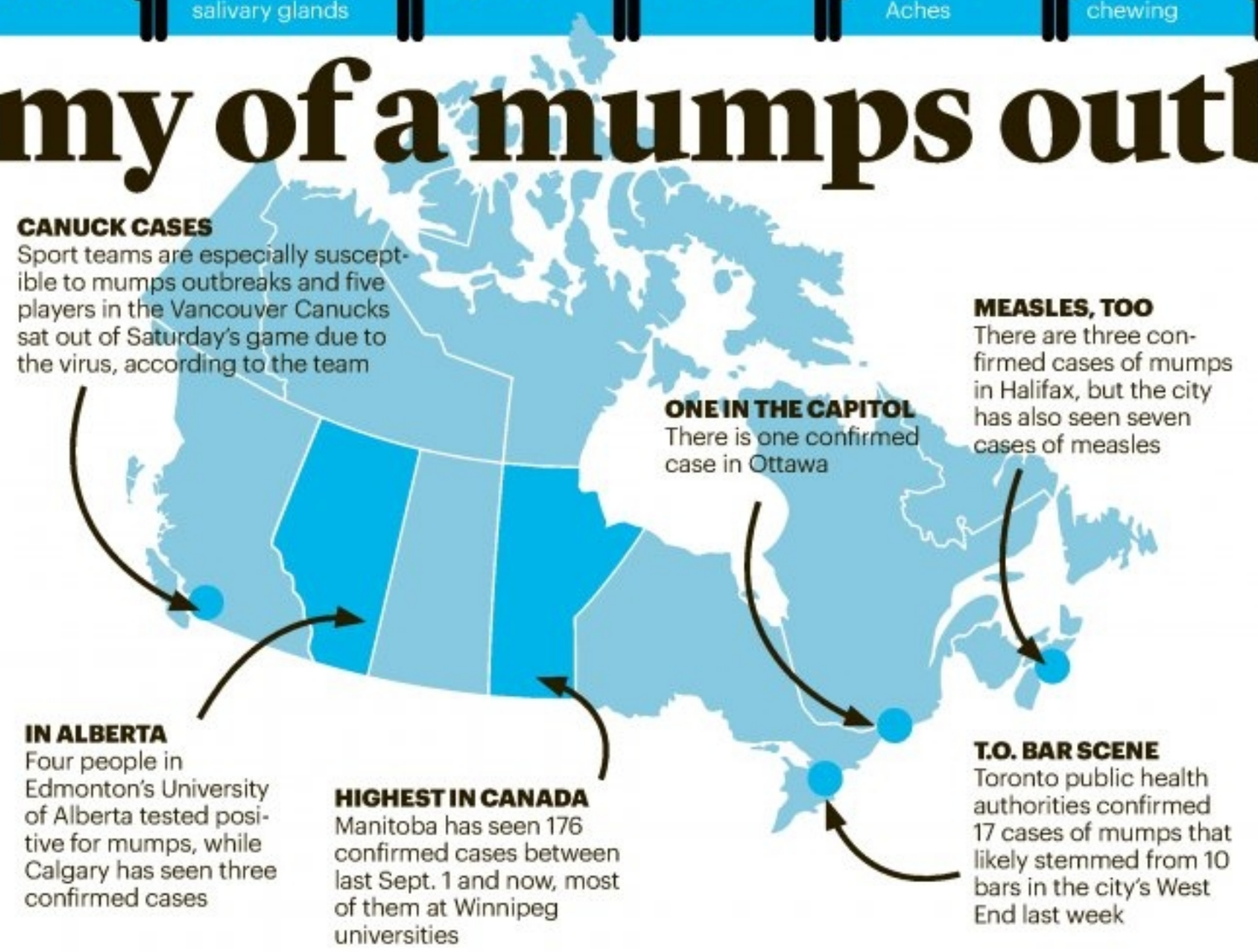
MUMPS SYMPTOMS to look out for Most people recover within seven to 10 days: Health Canada

Swollen, painful salivary glands | High fever | Headaches | Muscle Aches | Pain while chewing | Loss of appetite | Extreme Fatigue

Anatomy of a mumps outbreak

An immunization expert explains why there are still mumps outbreaks despite Canada's national vaccine program

WANYEE LI/METRO VANCOUVER



CANUCK CASES
Sport teams are especially susceptible to mumps outbreaks and five players in the Vancouver Canucks sat out of Saturday's game due to the virus, according to the team

IN ALBERTA
Four people in Edmonton's University of Alberta tested positive for mumps, while Calgary has seen three confirmed cases

HIGHEST IN CANADA
Manitoba has seen 176 confirmed cases between last Sept. 1 and now, most of them at Winnipeg universities

ONE IN THE CAPITOL
There is one confirmed case in Ottawa

MEASLES, TOO
There are three confirmed cases of mumps in Halifax, but the city has also seen seven cases of measles

T.O. BAR SCENE
Toronto public health authorities confirmed 17 cases of mumps that likely stemmed from 10 bars in the city's West End last week

HOW THE VIRUS SPREADS

Mumps is a highly contagious disease spread by saliva or mucus.

- Usually mumps is spread directly from person to person. When someone with mumps shouts at a bar, people around that person are likely to get infected by the flying spit if they haven't been vaccinated
- Kissing is a big culprit for the spread of mumps
- People can also spread mumps by sharing utensils and drinking glasses
- But the MMR vaccine is available free nationwide

A recent spate of mumps outbreaks in Canada has health experts reminding people about the importance of vaccines.

Mumps is a virus that causes the easily recognizable swelling of salivary glands. Most people recover within seven to 10 days but in rare cases people can develop complications, including deafness and meningitis, according to Health Canada.

Parents in Canada are advised to have their children receive two doses of the MMR vaccine – it protects people against the measles, mumps, and rubella.

Health authorities say it is normal to see a handful of mumps cases in provinces every year but outbreaks still occur because the disease is highly contagious and because Canada has not achieved herd immunity.

Unlike the measles, where an outbreak only occurs when a traveller brings it into the country, the mumps virus still exists in Canada, said Dr. Monika Naus, the director of immunization and vaccine preventable disease at the B.C. Centre for Disease Control.

A 2007 Health Canada pilot program found about 83 to 87 per cent of two-year-olds in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba were up to date with their mumps vaccines. Everyone in the country would have to get two doses of the mumps vaccine in order to achieve herd immunity, where the general population is protected against mumps. Without herd immunity, outbreaks can still occur, she said.

We asked Dr. Naus important questions about the mumps vaccine:

How can I check to see whether I have been vaccinated?
The best way is to check your immunization record. If people remember where they got their vaccinations, that health provider should provide a record.

How many vaccine doses did I get?
A second dose of mumps vaccine in 1996 was introduced at 16 months of age. For individuals from about 23 to 47 years of age, most of them will only have had a single dose of mumps vaccine.

What if I'm an immigrant who did not grow up in Canada?
If you immigrated from outside of Western Europe and North America, then there is an excellent chance that you weren't vaccinated against mumps. Mumps vaccines are not used in most of the developing world. For individuals like that, we recommend getting a mumps vaccine.

How effective is the mumps vaccine?
After one dose, about 80 per cent of people will be immune. After two doses, just over 90 per cent of people will have immunity. Everyone would have to get two doses in order to achieve herd immunity.

Is it possible to check whether I am immune to mumps?
For many vaccinations, an antibody level can be checked and if it is above a certain level, we can determine immunity. For mumps, we don't have that kind of certainty. So there's no point checking the antibody after the vaccine.

Does it hurt to get another mumps vaccine if I'm not sure whether I need a booster shot or not?
No it doesn't. If you're already immune, it won't do anything. It might boost your immunity.

This interview has been edited and condensed for brevity.

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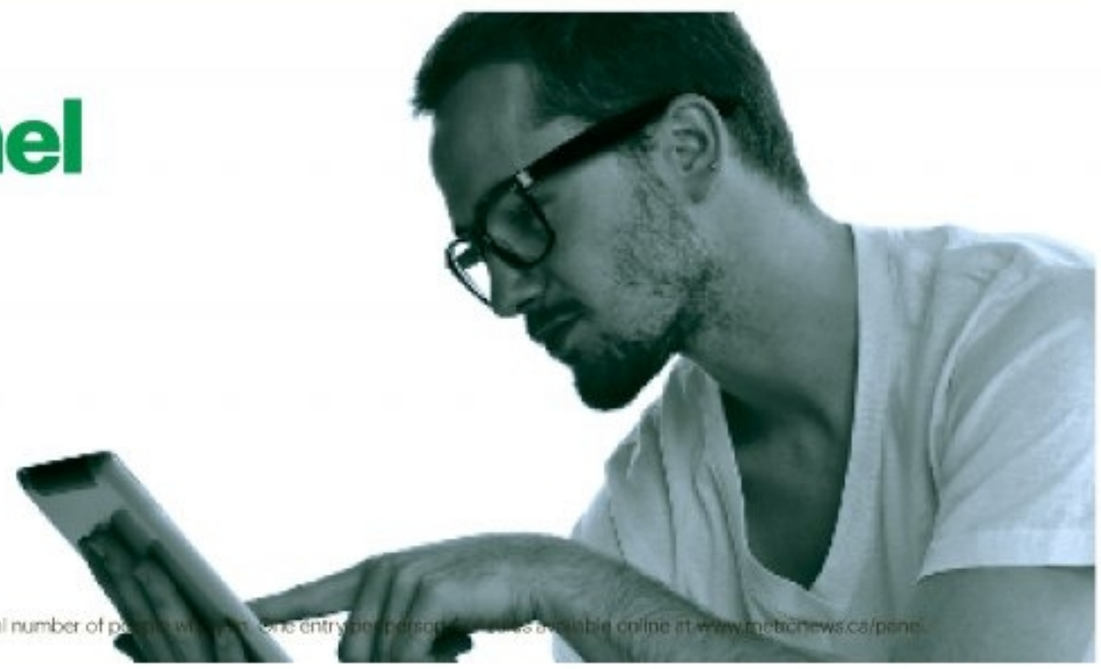

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RELATIONSHIPS

Being in sync on preferred playlists is not the key to love

Is it too late now to say I hate your taste in music?

For some single people, musical taste matters big time. Nickelback, Justin Bieber and Lady Gaga topped a poll of musical turnoffs conducted by Tastebuds.fm in 2011. GETTY IMAGES

On Katie Nestor's first date with Gareth Williams, she gushed about the bands she'd see perform at the WayHome music festival just north of Toronto that weekend. Williams stared at her blankly.

"I was like, 'Who is this guy who doesn't know WayHome?'" Nestor laughed, recalling how a few dates later, she learned for the first time that Williams had no songs on his phone and was indifferent to music. "I was like, 'Oh god, this guy is a loser'."

Yet, a year and a half later, they're still going strong.

Dating apps have started capitalizing on musical connections. Last year, Tinder partnered with Spotify to allow users to post their favourite artists and their own "anthem" on profiles, and dating app Happn allows users to post songs on profiles and send music to other users. Tastebuds.fm and Mix'd are apps specifically for music lovers looking to connect with fellow music lovers.

But does being in sync in musical taste translate to being in tune as a couple?

Relationship and musicology experts say that while liking the same music can create an initial spark between daters, it's not necessary for maintaining a happy relationship. The dealbreakers are when one person can't accept the other's different taste, or when they try to force their musical taste on another person — both cases usually signs of bigger problems, they say.

"Quite often at the beginning of relationships, couples are often looking for things they might have in common," said Kip Pegley, associate professor of musicology at Queen's University. "If you share certain similarities in music ... that can also speak to a shared history. 'Oh, you were at that concert? I love them too'."

For some singles, musical taste matters big time. Nickelback, Justin Bieber and Lady Gaga topped a poll of musical turnoffs conducted by Tastebuds.fm in 2011.

Pegley compares reading someone by their music collection to reading them by their book collection; it can give insight into what their other interests are.

But there's still hope for couples like Nestor and Williams, who have a love connection but no musical one, relationship experts say.

"It's perfectly OK to be on different pages about music," said Natasha Sharma, a Toronto-based therapist and author of The Kindness Journal.

Sharma said music can be lumped in as a "surface" interest with things such as taste in movies and food. It's more important to agree on big-picture stuff such as goals, values and outlooks on life, she said.

It's only when one person disparages the other's taste or when one tries to force music on the other that Sharma sees red flags.

"Any time you push anything on a partner, it's not good — whether it's music or marriage," she said. "The problem is, the person who is forcing it down their partner's proverbial throat isn't respecting them."

But if one person doesn't initially like the other's music, they shouldn't give up trying, she said. Showing an interest in your partner's interests — be they music or sci-fi movies — lets them know you care. Completely shutting down someone's music can be particularly hurtful since it's so personal, she said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"The songs are catchy. Plus, when you sing, you butcher it and it makes me laugh.
Gareth Williams eventually found common ground with music-loving girlfriend Katie Nestor — it's the Frozen soundtrack

CONNECTION

When it comes to liking the same music, there are scientific reasons why it may help you bond:
"We know from some brain studies that music can bring up autobiographical memories ... memories for events that have happened to you," said Laurel Trainor, a professor of cognitive neuroscience and director of McMaster University's Institute for Music and the Mind. "For example, the first date you went on, you might remember the music that the band played."
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

HEALTH

Doctors key to quitting

Primary-care doctors need to take a more active role in preventing young Canadians from starting smoking and helping those who have already taken up the habit to butt out for good, says a group of experts that develops clinical practice guidelines.

That recommendation is at the heart of the first-ever guidance on smoking in children and youth aged five to 18, developed by the Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care.

Almost 90 per cent of adult smokers started before they were 18. CANADIAN PRESS

"Rates of smoking have decreased over the last couple of decades, but they seem to have plateaued and they're still much too high," said Dr. Brett Thombs, chairman of the four-member tobacco working group within the task force, which penned the guidelines released Monday.

"And among Canadian youth, by the time children and adolescents are in 12th grade, 36 per cent have tried smoking," said Thombs, a professor in the faculty of medicine at McGill University in Montreal. "And that's simply way too high given the massive burden of smoking on health (and) on our economy."

The guideline document, published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal, cites data showing that 18 per cent of youth in Grades 6 to 12 have tried cigarettes.

"We know that people who start smoking as children and youth are much less likely to quit later on," said Thombs.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Writer/director Barry Jenkins, producer Adele Romanski, producer Jeremy Kleiner and cast members accept the best picture Oscar for Moonlight after a mess-up that provided us with a metaphor so literal you could throw popcorn at it. GETTY IMAGES

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

A transcendent transfer

THE SHOW: The Academy Awards (CTV/ABC)
THE MOMENT: The epic fail

Best picture presenter Warren Beatty opens the envelope. He reads the card. He squints. He looks in the envelope for another card.

He looks at his co-presenter, Faye Dunaway. He says, "And the Academy Award," and stops, looking off stage. "You're awful," Dunaway says. He holds the card out to her. She only glances at it. "La La Land," she says.

The music plays, the La La team hugs. Producer Jordan Horowitz makes his speech. As fellow producer Marc Platt makes his, people in headsets dart around in the background. Faces fall.

Horowitz charges the mic. "I'm sorry, no, there's a mistake," he says. "Moonlight, you guys won best picture." Gasps from the audience. "This is not a joke." He holds up the card. "Moonlight. Best picture."

Hubbub. "Warren," host Jimmy Kimmel wails, "what did you do?"

We know what Beatty should have done: "I'm sorry, I seem to have the wrong envelope." Instead, he gave us a metaphor so literal, if it was a movie you'd throw popcorn at the screen.

The walking embodiment of old Hollywood and white privilege, frozen in bewilderment, allows a cadre of white males to think they've won for a lighthearted confection about cute white dreamers in LA.

And then we all watch as they physically transfer the statuette to a female producer and a black director for their intimate movie about a black gay man.

"I'm going to be really proud to hand this to my friends from Moonlight," Horowitz said gracefully.

Speaking for humankind? We can only dream.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

WOES KEEP COMING

RIP?

Australian producer Jan Chapman insisted she is very much alive after her face was displayed during the In Memoriam segment, intended to honour her friend Janet Patterson.

32.9M

The 32.9 million viewers tuning into Sunday's awards was the second-lowest rating of all time.

ANATOMY OF DISASTER

How Oscars were enveloped by chaos

The question on everyone's lips in the immediate aftermath of the stunning final twist to Sunday's Oscars was simply 'how?' Here's a look at the processes and how the Academy Awards' winners envelopes are handled before being opened live onstage:

- The consulting firm PwC, formerly Price Waterhouse Coopers, tabulates the winners based on ballots cast by the academy's 6,687 voting members. Unlike the nominations, which rely on a branch-specific, preferential-voting system, winners are chosen by popular vote.

- Two accountants are tasked with bringing the final results, inside sealed envelopes, to the Oscars ceremony. They are the people carrying briefcases on the red carpet, flanked by police protection. Each briefcase contains an identical set of envelopes for the show's 24 categories. The accountants also memorize the winners.

- The two accountants are ostensibly the only people who know the winners before they are announced live on TV.

- During the telecast, the two briefcase-toting accountants are stationed in the Dolby Theatre wings, one stage left and one stage right.

- Most presenters enter stage right. They come backstage a few minutes ahead of time, and the accountant hands them their category's envelope just before they walk onstage. The sealed envelope with the winner's name inside is opened live onstage.

A curious tale of two envelopes: Emma Stone holds one best actress card (above) but Warren Beatty was handed another (below). GETTY IMAGES

- On Sunday, Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway entered stage right, where PwC representative Brian Cullinan handed them the errant envelope.

- The previous award, best actress, was presented by Leonardo DiCaprio, who entered stage left. PwC representative Martha Ruiz handed him the envelope for the correct category.

- A duplicate, unopened envelope for best actress remained stage right, and apparently ended up in the hands of Beatty and Dunaway.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

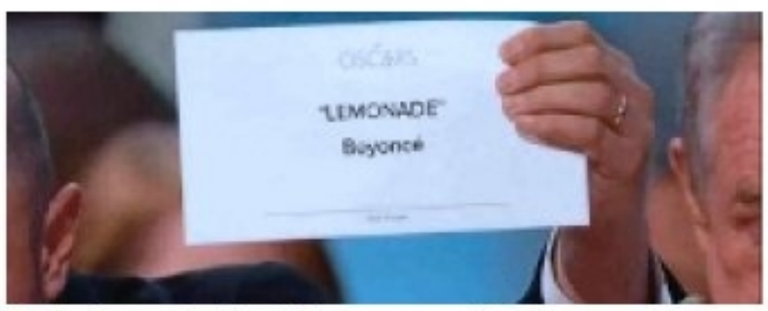
HUMOUR

And the award for best meme goes to...

The best picture Oscar blunder prompted snickering from Ryan Gosling and a cascade of politically tinged jokes on Twitter, with some even declaring Hillary Clinton the winner.

Billy Crystal tweeted: "Amazing ending. Wish that had happened on Election Day." Seth MacFarlane chimed in: "You know what the problem is — millions of Academy members voted illegally."

The sarcasm started after La La Land was wrongly announced as the best picture winner. The actual winner was Moonlight, drawing a giggle from Gosling, who was on stage with the La La Land cast when the real winner was announced.



On the Internet at least, Beyonce won big. TWITTER/@THISJENLEWIS

Memes using the Oscar winner envelope held up by La La Land producer Jordan Horowitz were edited to instead show titles of films that have garnered little attention from the Academy, including Ernest Goes to Camp and Space Jam.

One of the most popular took a dig at another hotly contested award — when Adele saw off Beyonce's Lemonade for record of the year at the Grammys.

Other memes showed the popular vote totals for the recent U.S. presidential election, with Clinton tallying more ballots than President Donald Trump. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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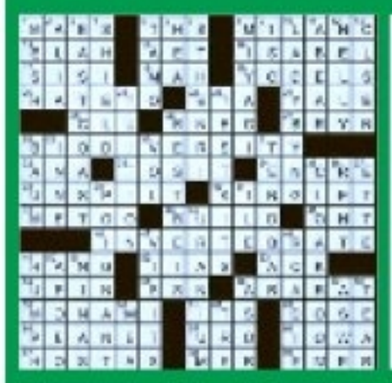

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1	6	8	4	5	7	9	2	3
7	9	3	8	2	6	5	4	1
5	4	2	3	1	9	6	8	7

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metro SPORT

Free agent guard Deron Williams has signed with the Cavaliers, giving the NBA champions another playmaker to help defend their title

IN BRIEF

Raps' Lowry aiming for playoff return after surgery

Masai Ujiri defended the Toronto Raptors' handling of Kyle Lowry's wrist injury, despite the fact the point guard is scheduled to undergo surgery barely a week after playing in the NBA all-star game.

"If you look at the history of this kind of injury, players sometimes feel pain and sometimes they don't feel pain," the team president said. "Sometimes if you feel that this thing is going to go away, and that's how he felt."

Lowry will undergo surgery on Tuesday to remove loose bodies from his right wrist. He's expected to miss the rest of the regular season, with an aim to return in time for the playoffs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sources: Argos to name former Als as coach, GM

Jim Popp and Marc Trestman are together again.

Two sources said Monday the Toronto Argonauts have agreements in principle for Popp and Trestman to become the CFL club's GM and head coach, respectively.

Popp spent 21 seasons as the Montreal Alouettes general manager (1996-2016), leading the franchise to eight Grey Cup appearances, winning three. Two of those titles came with Trestman as the club's head coach (2009-10). THE CANADIAN PRESS

Forsberg named No. 1 star

Nashville Predators left-winger Filip Forsberg, Chicago Blackhawks centre Jonathan Toews and Calgary Flames left-winger Johnny Gaudreau are the NHL's three stars of the week.

Forsberg led all skaters with eight goals and 10 points, including back-to-back hat tricks, as the Predators gained seven of a possible eight points in the standings. Toews (four goals, five assists) recorded multi-point efforts in each of the Blackhawks' three wins last week and Gaudreau recorded eight points (two goals, six assists) in four road victories. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sens dig in for a playoff push with Burrows move

NHL

'Heart and soul' forward adds sandpaper in move from B.C.

The Ottawa Senators are gearing up for a post-season push, acquiring veteran forward Alexandre Burrows from the Vancouver Canucks in exchange for prospect Jonathan Dahlen on Monday.

The deal was announced about 46 hours before Wednesday's NHL trade deadline and gives the Senators a skilled pest with plenty of playoff experience.

Burrows, who turns 36 in April, played 822 regular-season games with the Canucks, posting 193 goals, 191 assists and 1,066 penalty minutes.

The undrafted free agent who fought his way from the third-tier ECHL to eventually star on Vancouver's top line added 19 goals and 15 assists in 70 playoff games.

"We had to do something like this," Senators general manager Pierre Dorion told reporters Monday before Ottawa's game in Tampa, Fla. "We just felt it was time to add another piece, and in Alex Burrows, I can tell you, we're ecstatic to have added that piece."

Set to become an unrestricted free agent this summer, the Pincourt, Que., native had a full no-trade clause in his contract and would have had to agree to the trade. There are reports he could sign a two-year extension with Ottawa as early as Tuesday.

Alex Burrows brings 70 games of NHL playoff experience to the Senators. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **We had to do something like this.**
> Senators GM Pierre Dorion

"We've talked about an extension, I think we'll be able to announce something tomorrow," Dorion said.

Burrows had four straight seasons of at least 25 goals from 2008-09 to 2011-12 playing largely with the Henrik and Daniel Sedin. His best year came in 2009-10 when he scored 35 goals and added 32 assists.

"It's been a hard day," Canucks general manager Jim Benning said in Vancouver. "Alex Burrows has been the heart and soul of our franchise for a long time. He's given us everything that he's had. He's been so good with our young players this year, but given where we're at right now we just felt it was time to make the move.

"We got back, we feel, a good, young player in Jonathan Dahlen so we're excited about that."

Burrows' days as an offensive catalyst are behind him — he has nine goals and 11 assists in 55 games this season — but he will still bring sandpaper to a Senators team pressuring for the top spot in the Atlantic Division.

Dahlen, 19, was selected in the second round, 42nd overall, by Ottawa at the 2016 NHL draft.

The forward has impressed at the international level, registering six points in seven games for Sweden at the 2017 world junior championship.

With the Canucks fading out of the Western Conference playoff picture, Burrows repeatedly stated he would only agree to a trade if it made sense on a personal level.

"Family always comes first. That doesn't mean that I don't care about hockey," he said after Monday's practice. "I care about hockey a lot." THE CANADIAN PRESS

MONDAY MOVES

OTTAWA-VANCOUVER

TO SENATORS: ALEX BURROWS

TO CANUCKS: JONATHAN DAHLEN

TORONTO-TAMPA BAY

TO LEAFS: BRIAN BOYLE

TO LIGHTNING: BYRON FROESE, CONDITIONAL 2ND-ROUND PICK (2017)

MONTREAL-DALLAS

TO CANADIENS: JORDIE BENN

TO STARS: GREG PATERYN, 2017 4TH-ROUNDER

ARIZONA-MINNESOTA

TO ARIZONA: TEEMU PULKKINEN

TO WILD: FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS

Homan's third Scotties victory 'the sweetest' yet

Rachel Homan, left, third Emma Miskew, second Joanne Courtney and lead Lisa Weagle pose with the Scotties championship trophy on Sunday night in St. Catharines, Ont. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alana Thoman
Metro | Ottawa

Kanata's Rachel Homan became the youngest skip to win to ever win three Canadian curling championships when her team won the Scotties Tournament of Hearts on Sunday night.

Homan, third Emma Miskew, second Joanne Courtney and lead Lisa Weagle defeated Michelle Englot's Manitoba rink 8-6 in a nail-biting extra-end thriller in St. Catharines, Ont.

Darren McEwen, the media manager and close friend of the entire Ottawa Curling Club-based team, said the win was special.

"I don't think I've jumped as high in my life," McEwen said. "I've been there for all three of their Scotties wins and this was definitely the sweetest and most nerve-wracking one."

McEwen, who has been with the team since 2011, said it was special seeing Courtney win her first Scotties. In 2014, Courtney — then on Team Alberta — lost to Homan's Team Canada in the Scotties final in Montreal.

"Joanne is an incredible sweeper, maybe the best woman sweeper to ever play the game," said McEwen.

As for the rest of the rink, McEwen said Homan picks the team up when doubts arise, Weagle is the quiet/confident presence and Miskew plays a supportive role giving valuable input and insight.

"They have all made some pretty big sacrifices as individuals and they recognize that in each other," said McEwen.

Up next, Homan's rink represents Canada at the world championships in Beijing starting March 18.

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Spicy Fish Tacos with Glazed Sweet Potato

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Taco Tuesday just got an upgrade.

Ready in 40 minutes
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 4 – 6 Mahi-Mahi or Halibut fillets
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 1/2 tsp ground chili powder
- 1/2 tsp ground oregano
- 1/2 tsp garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 small sweet potato, diced into 1/2 inch cubes
- 2 tsp maple syrup
- salt
- 1 tsp butter

Fixings:
- corn or whole wheat tortillas
- cole slaw
- 1 container of fresh salsa
- chopped fresh cilantro
- sour cream
- guacomole

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 425F and grease a large baking sheet. Combine the cumin, chili powder, oregano, garlic powder, cinnamon and salt in a small bowl and mix with a fork to combine. Sprinkle over fish and rub spice mix evenly across the fillets.

2. Place on prepared sheet and bake in the oven for 12 to 15 minutes, or until fish flakes with a fork.

3. Place mahi-mahi on a platter and pull fillets apart with a fork. Meanwhile, toss the sweet potato with the maple syrup and sprinkle with salt.

4. In a skillet over medium-low heat, add the butter and then sauté the sweet potato for about 10 minutes, or until potato is tender.

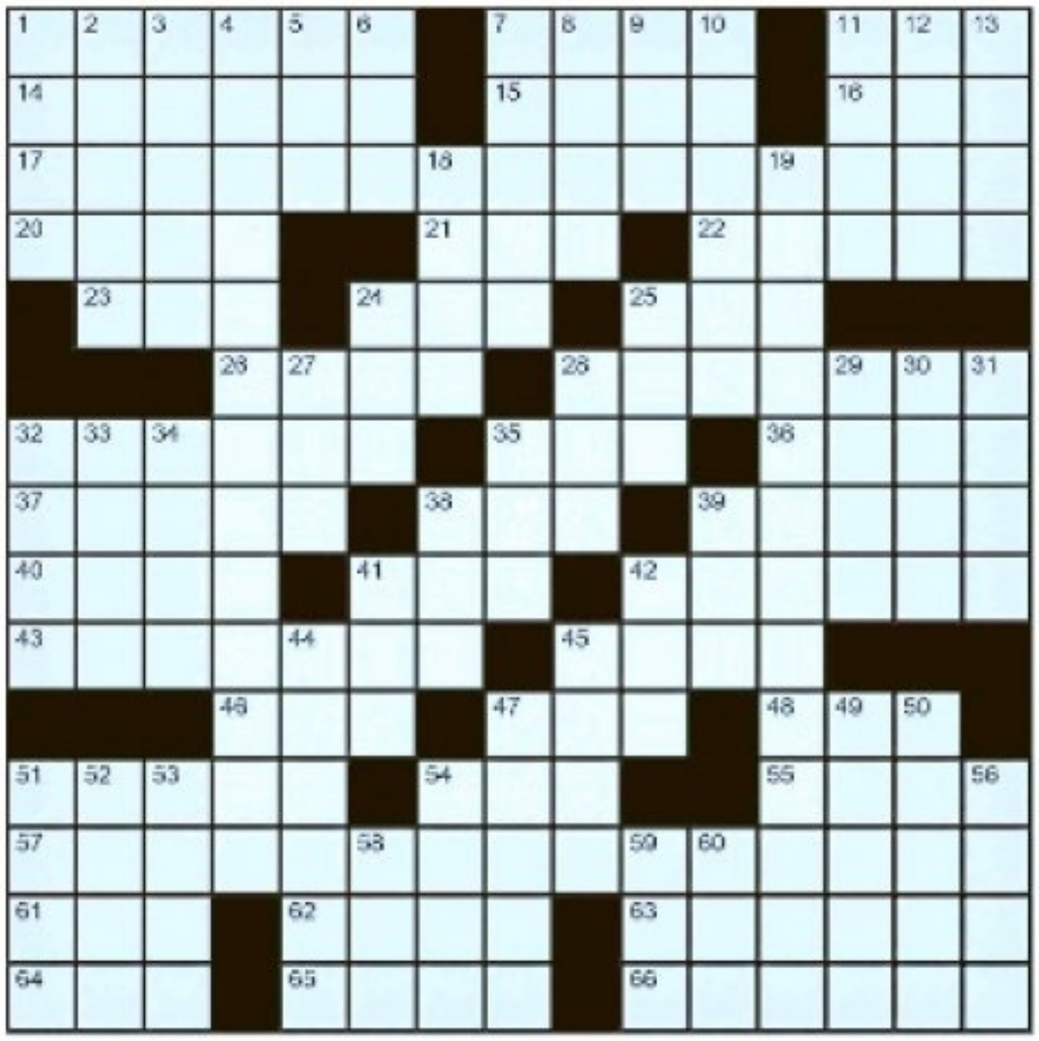
5. Remove the sweet potato from the skillet, place it in a bowl, and set aside.

Serve fish and sweet potato alongside other fixings.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. __ Tuesday (Day before Lent starts)
7. Parrot
11. Fergie's bandmate, __de.ap
14. Garlic sauces
15. Tart
16. Mauna __ (Hawaiian volcano)
17. Dairy or wheat, to some eaters: 2 wds.
20. Desire Under the __ (Eugene O'Neill play)
21. Clod
22. Lollobrigida and Gershon
23. Summer hrs. in Toronto
24. Jimmy
25. Photo
26. Hat part
28. Fireplace features
32. Invite on a date: 2 wds.
35. Canadian comedian Mr. James
36. Miss
37. Gregorian __
38. Capture
39. __ donna
40. Singer Ms. Kelly
41. Keep the grass short
42. Keys-on-a-loop character in a Western
43. My world of me!
45. Isinglass
46. Slot machine feature
47. Showbiz job
48. Money exec in a co.
51. __ Bay, Nova Scotia
54. __ clear
55. Splinter
57. Bass, as per singing: 3 wds.
61. US tooth doc's org.
62. Sporting slingbacks or sandals
63. Decline, as an offer: 2 wds.
64. TV actress Susan Hanks and Shelley Long
25. Frying need
27. Groove
28. Mafia
29. "__ and the Detectives" (1964)
30. 'L' of household cleaning brand CLR
31. Hollywood Walk of Fame symbol
32. Pretends
33. Velcro 'venue'
34. Mr. Malden
35. Sore
38. 'Name' in Montreal
39. Ocean, e.g.
41. Particular parent
42. Zippy dance
44. Fancily attired
45. Grinding factory
47. Open space in a wooded area
49. Single-named singer
50. Timely way to deliver lines: 2 wds.
51. Delighted
52. Mineral deposit
53. "Fly __ Home" (1996)
54. "Star Trek" episode, '__ Time'
56. Johnny of movies
58. Howe'er
59. Prefix to 'centre'
60. Delivery vehicle
65. Pilot's steerer
66. Synchronized on the dance floor: 2 wds.

DOWN
1. Secure
2. "__, __ friend!" (Greetings my longtime pal!)
3. Boards
4. Historic French Canadian area of Winnipeg: 3 wds.
5. '__' __ for Verdun
6. Opposite of WNW
7. Composition
8. Salon creation
9. "Gilligan's Island" shelter
10. Beginning
11. Comparable
12. Ms. Wilson of "La Femme Nikita"
13. __ into (Criticizes/attacks)
18. Benchmark
19. Canada's highest military honour: 2 wds.
24. "The Money __" (1986) starring Tom

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a lovely day because the Moon and Venus both are in Aries. Lucky you! You feel friendly toward everyone, which is why it will be easy to get along with others.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You will welcome every chance to enjoy solitude in beautiful surroundings today. You have an above-average need for privacy and some peace and quiet.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is a lovely day to schmooze with friends and members of groups because you feel very warm toward others. Enjoy hanging out with people who are creative and artistic.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You look good in the eyes of bosses, parents and VIPs today. In fact, you look so good that some of you will strike up a flirtation with someone in a position of power.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Grab every opportunity to travel for pleasure today or do something different. Because your appreciation of beauty is heightened, visit museums, art galleries, beautiful buildings and parks.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You can benefit from the wealth and resources of others today, which is why it's a good day if you need to borrow something.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Although you have to cooperate with others today, they will be receptive and cooperative with you. You will achieve a nice balance of give-and-take with close friends and partners.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Co-workers will be supportive today. In fact, you might get praise or even a raise. Who knows? (Fingers crossed.)

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is a romantic day for you. Enjoy social outings, sports events, the arts and playful activities with children. Accept all invitations to party.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You might be enthused about redecorating your home today. Likewise, you will enjoy buying something beautiful for where you live. Family relations will be friendly.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a strong day for those who write, teach, act, sell or market, because your words are like gold today. All your communications with others will benefit you.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Look for ways to boost your income today, because they exist. If shopping, you will buy something beautiful for yourself or a loved one.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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